

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.  
PCT/AU03/01187

<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b>												
Int. Cl.?: A61B 17/32												
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC												
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b>												
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)												
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched												
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) DWPI and keywords: scalpel and blade and guard and similar terms												
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>												
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.										
Y	WO 01/05312 A1 (OCCUPATIONAL & MEDICAL INNOVATIONS PTY LTD) 25 January 2001 Page 3 line 24 to page 4 line 1	12-14										
X Y	US 5868771 A (HERBERT et al.) 9 February 1999 Column 4 line 25 to column 5 line 58	12-14 1,6,7,9-11										
Y	US 6058607 A (GRINGER) 9 May 2000 Column 9 lines 19 to 37	1,6,7,9-11										
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex										
<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <table> <tr> <td>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</td> <td>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</td> <td>"X" document of particular relevance, the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</td> <td>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</td> <td>"&amp;" document member of the same patent family</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>			"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention	"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance, the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone	"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art	"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family	"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention											
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance, the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone											
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art											
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family											
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed												
Date of the actual completion of the international search 30 October 2003	Date of mailing of the international search report 5 NOV 2003											
Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized officer <i>D. Melhuish</i> DAVID MELHUISH Telephone No: (02) 6283 2426											

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.

PCT/AU03/01187

<b>C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
<b>Category*</b>	<b>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</b>	<b>Relevant to claim No.</b>
Y	EP 555196 A1 (ABIDIN et al.) 11 August 1993 Column 5 line 40 to column 6 line 52	12-14
Y	WO 01/74257 A1 (MAERSK MEDICAL LIMITED) 11 October 2001 Page 8 lines 1 to 22	12-14
Y	US 3905101 A (SHEPHERD) 16 September 1975 Column 2 lines 32 to 64	12,14